AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. **(Currently Amended)** A device for determining [[the]] a version of metal mask utilized for producing a given metal layer in an integrated circuit comprising a plurality of metal layers, wherein any modification made to the given metal layer ~~requiring~~ requires generation of a new version of [[the]] a corresponding metal mask, the device comprising:

a cell integrated into [[the]] a metal layer comprising:

at least a first voltage source for supplying a first voltage level,

at least a second voltage source for supplying a second voltage level, and

an output bus ~~composed of~~ comprising at least one conductor wire connected selectively to one of the first and second voltage sources as a function of [[the]] a version of metal mask used to produce the metal layer, so as to generate a binary output signal representative of the ~~mask~~ version of metal mask utilized.

2. **(Original)** The device as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the output bus of the cell comprises two conductor wires.

3. **(Currently Amended)** The device as claimed in Claim 2, wherein the number of conductor wires ~~comprising the output bus of the cell~~ is proportional to [[the]] a number of versions of metal mask able to be utilized for the given metal layer.

4. **(Currently Amended)** The device as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the number of conductor wires ~~comprising the output bus of the cell~~ is proportional to [[the]] a number of versions of metal mask able to be utilized for the given metal layer.

5. **(Original)** The device as claimed in Claim 4, wherein the first voltage source comprises a supply terminal.

6. **(Currently Amended)** The device as claimed in Claim 4, wherein the second voltage source comprises ~~an earth~~ a ground terminal.

7. **(Currently Amended)** The device as claimed in Claim 4, wherein inside the cell, each conductor wire ~~making up the output bus~~ is routed close to the first voltage source and to the second voltage source so as to facilitate [[the]] connections and disconnections from one to the other.

8. **(Currently Amended)** The device as claimed in Claim 1, wherein inside the cell, each conductor wire ~~making up the output bus~~ is routed close to the first voltage source and to the second voltage source so as to facilitate [[the]] connections and disconnections from one to the other.

9. **(Original)** The device as claimed in Claim 8, wherein the first voltage source comprises a supply terminal.

10. **(Currently Amended)** The device as claimed in Claim 8, wherein the second voltage source comprises ~~an earth~~ a ground terminal.

11. **(Original)** The device as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the first voltage source comprises a supply terminal.

12. **(Currently Amended)** The device as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the second voltage source comprises ~~an earth~~ a ground terminal.

13. **(Currently Amended)** An integrated circuit comprising a plurality of metal layers, wherein each metal layer comprises:

a cell integrated into the respective each metal layer, comprising:

at least a first voltage source for supplying a first voltage level,

at least a second voltage source for supplying a second voltage level, and

an output bus ~~composed of~~ comprising at least one conductor wire connected selectively to one of the first and second voltage sources as a function of [[the]] a version of metal mask ~~used~~ utilized to produce the respective each metal layer, so as to generate a binary output signal representative of the ~~mask~~ version of metal mask utilized.

14. **(Original)** The integrated circuit as claimed in Claim 13, wherein the output bus of the cell comprises two conductor wires.

15. **(Currently Amended)** The integrated circuit as claimed in Claim 14, wherein [[the]] a number of conductor wires ~~comprising the output bus of the cell~~ is proportional to [[the]] a number of versions of metal mask able to be utilized for [[the]] a given metal layer.

16. **(Currently Amended)** The integrated circuit as claimed in Claim 13, wherein [[the]] a number of conductor wires ~~comprising the output bus of the cell~~ is proportional to [[the]] a number of versions of metal mask able to be utilized for [[the]] a given metal layer.

17. **(Original)** The integrated circuit as claimed in Claim 16, wherein the first voltage source comprises a supply terminal.

18. **(Currently Amended)** The integrated circuit as claimed in Claim 16, wherein the second voltage source comprises ~~an earth~~ a ground terminal.

19. (**Currently Amended**) The integrated circuit as claimed in Claim 16, wherein inside the cell, each conductor wire ~~making up the output bus~~ is routed close to the first voltage source and to the second voltage source so as to facilitate [[the]] connections and disconnections from one to the other.

20. (**Currently Amended**) The integrated circuit as claimed in Claim 13, wherein inside the cell, each conductor wire ~~making up the output bus~~ is routed close to the first voltage source and to the second voltage source so as to facilitate [[the]] connections and disconnections from one to the other.

21. (**Original**) The integrated circuit as claimed in Claim 20, wherein the first voltage source comprises a supply terminal.

22. (**Currently Amended**) The integrated circuit as claimed in Claim 20, wherein the second voltage source comprises ~~an earth~~ a ground terminal.

23. (**Original**) The integrated circuit as claimed in Claim 13, wherein the first voltage source comprises a supply terminal.

24. (**Currently Amended**) The integrated circuit as claimed in Claim 13, wherein the second voltage source comprises ~~an earth~~ a ground terminal.